

NEWS RELEASE

**INDIANA
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**



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Joseph E. Kernan, Governor
Alan D. Degner, Commissioner

*** PUBLIC NOTICE ***

Workers at Richmond's Amcast Industrial Corp. Receive Federal TAA Certification

Indianapolis, Ind. – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has ruled that employees of Wayne County's Amcast Industrial Corp. are eligible to receive federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country. The company, which is located in Richmond, produces aluminum castings.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees requesting these benefits must file a petition with U.S. Department of Labor and it must be approved before these benefits can be released. The United Autoworkers of America local 2374 filed a petition on behalf of the workers on February 6, 2004. The investigation revealed that sales and employment at the company declined from September through January 2004 when compared to the same time period of 2003 due to an increase in customer imports. This information was certified on March 26, 2004.

Therefore, any employee, who has been or will be totally or partially separated from Amcast's employment on or after December 17, 2002 through the two years from the date of certification, is eligible for adjustment assistance. The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

Additionally, the Department of Labor issued a certification for alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) for separated older workers at Amcast. It was found that a significant number of workers at the company age 50 or over possess skills that are not easily transferable and that competitive conditions within the industry are adverse. Older workers may choose between regular TAA benefits or a wage subsidy of 50 percent of the difference between their new salary and old salary, up to \$10,000.

Information sessions for workers on how to apply for TAA and ATAA are currently being planned and will be announced at a later date. Eligible parties may also contact Deb Johns in Marion's WorkOne office at 765/ 962-8591 ext. 251 or any WorkOne Center for more information.

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